

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BANGKO 25858 161034Z

14

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 JUSE-00 NSAE-00

SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-06 OMB-01 /050 W

----- 009524

R 161005Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3394

INFO DEA HQ WASHDC

CINCPAC HONOLULU

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 25858

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, TH

SUBJECT: DRUG RELATED CRIME IN THAILAND

SUMMARY: OFFICIAL INTEREST IN AND CONCERN OVER THE NARCOTICS PROBLEM IN THAILAND CONTINUES TO SHOW A SLOW BUT STEADY INCREASE. END SUMMARY.

1. ACCORDING TO NEWSPAPERS OF SEPTEMBER 16, GOVERNMENT PARTIES SPOKESMAN DR. AKHOM SONSURACHAT ANNOUNCED ON SEPTEMBER 15 THAT THE RTG WILL SEEK A SPECIAL 38 MILLION BAHT FUND FOR A DRUG REHABILITATION PROGRAM TO BE ADDED TO THE FOURTH NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN, WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN IN FISCAL YEAR 1977 (COMMENCES OCTOBER 1, 1976). DR. AKHOM INDICATED THAT ONE OF THE TARGETS OF THE PROGRAM WILL BE TO REDUCE DRUG RELATED CRIME. HE CITED CRIME STATISTICS FROM MARCH TO JULY OF 1976 WHICH, HE SAID, INDICATED THAT 47 PERCENT OF CRIMINAL OFFENSES WERE COMMITTED BY DRUG ADDICTS. HE ALSO CLAIMED THAT THAILAND NOW HAS 600,000 ADDICTS (EMBASSY FEELS THAT THESE FIGURES ARE INFLATED, BUT THERE ARE NO RELIABLE FIGURES AVAILABLE).

2. DRUG RELATED CRIME IS CERTAINLY A SERIOUS PROBLEM IN  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BANGKO 25858 161034Z

THAILAND, AND PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THIS BY THE GOVERN-

MENT IS ENCOURAGING. NEWSPAPERS ARE ALSO SHOWING AN INCREASED INTEREST IN THE PROBLEM. NEWSPAPERS OF SEPTEMBER 15 CARRIED NEWS OF THE ARREST OF A 19 YEAR OLD DELIVERY BOY CAUGHT STEALING TO SUPPORT HIS DRUG HABIT (THE ACCOUNT SAID THE BOY CLAIMED TAKING SEVEN "SHOTS" OF HEROIN PER DAY). IN A MORE SERIOUS CRIME, A POLICE CORPORAL WAS SHOT DEAD IN A GUN BATTLE WITH THREE ADDICTS WHO WERE ROBBING A TAXI DRIVER IN THONBURI. OTHER POLICE OFFICERS SHOT AND WOUNDED ONE OF THE GANG, AND THEN CAPTURED ALL THREE. TWO OF THE GANG WERE SOLDIERS.

3. THIRTY-EIGHT (38) MILLION BAHT (U.S.\$1.9 MILLION) WILL DO LITTLE TO SOLVE THAILAND'S DRUG PROBLEM, OR TO STOP THE ALARMING INCREASE IN ADDICTION AND RELATED CRIME. BUT RECOGNITION OF THE PROBLEM IS A MINIMAL FIRST STEP. BURKE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DRUG CONTROL, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 SEP 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ullricre  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976BANGKO25858  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760350-0515  
**From:** BANGKOK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760955/aaaabuvp.tel  
**Line Count:** 77  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ullricre  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 28 JUL 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <28 JUL 2004 by coburnhl>; APPROVED <18 OCT 2004 by ullricre>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DRUG RELATED CRIME IN THAILAND SUMMARY: OFFICIAL INTEREST IN AND CONCERN OVER THE NARCOTICS PROBLEM IN THAILAND CONTINUES TO SHOW A SLOW BUT S  
**TAGS:** SNAR, TH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006